

You Make the Call

ANSWERS

A1- It is NOT a catch if a fielder, after he contacts the ball, collides with a fence and drops the ball as a result of the collision or falling to the ground.

(SSUSA SECTION 1.10)

A2- The player is EJECTED from the game and if on base will be called out.

(SSUSA SECTION 3.1)

A3- The ball is alive and the runners may advance at the risk of being put out.

(SSUSA SECTION 7.6G)

A4- The ball is ruled 'in play' and the run scores. The fielder "MUST" hold up an arm or both arms to signal the umpire. The batter and all runners will be awarded two bases from the start of play.

(SSUSA SECTION 9.1)

A5- The runner is OUT. You cannot slide into the scoring plate or line.

(SSUSA SECTION 8.5)

A6- The runner is safe. The runner can slide when returning to 1st, 2nd or 3rd base.

(SSUSA, SECTION 8.5, SECTION 8.6 (4))

A7- Only a catcher or 1st baseman can use a mitt (SSUSA SECTION 3.6). Any fielder may wear a glove or mitt (ASA RULE 3, SECTION 4)

THESE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ARE BASED ON ASA RULES.

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ALL-SCHOOL NEWS

Bill Reichle Named National Coach of the Year

Pingry Boys' Varsity Swimming Head Coach Bill Reichle has been selected as the 2009 "National Coach of the Year" for Boys Swimming and Diving by the coaches association of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

Each "National Coach of the Year" is selected based on an individual's career coaching record, community service, involvement in other school activities, involvement with swimming at the various state/local/national levels, and their basic philosophy of athletics.

"Athletics present an opportunity to challenge the swimmers to become better athletes, better students, and better citizens. It's a challenge for me to improve the Pingry program every year. This award is not only a great honor, but also a nice tribute to past and present swimmers and the past and present coaching staff. It's a group effort," said

Coach Reichle, who will be recognized in the spring issue of Coaches Quarterly magazine.

Coach Reichle has been working with swimmers for more than 40 years. He has coached at Pingry for the past 22 years, and he also serves as an Algebra teacher on the mathematics faculty. His teams have won six State Group Championships and four County Titles (among other championships), and he was also honored by *The Star-Ledger* as State "Coach of the Year" in 2008. For the 2008-2009 season, the NFHS selected him as New Jersey "Coach of the Year" for Boys' Swimming and Diving. Coach Reichle is also a member of the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association's Hall of Fame.

"This award is well-deserved and a fitting tribute to Bill's coaching career. He is humble, yet he has made and continues to make a tremendous difference in his athletes' lives. This is an honor for his entire coaching staff," said Gerry Vanasse, Pingry's Director of Athletics.

Congratulations, Coach Reichle!

OCEAN COUNTY SENIOR LEAGUES

"We have two leagues in Ocean County," said Pete DeRosa, 65 of Brick. "The 50-and-over league and the 60 and over. They both have a half-dozen teams, and they play from May through September."

Those teams, like the others in Monmouth County, are filled with a variety of players from A level (highly skilled) to D level (out for a good time). It does not matter which kind of player you are. "The idea is to complete and enjoy it," he said.

The increasing popularity of senior softball can be attributed to the transition of baby boomers—many of whom helped popularize the game during the '70s and '80s—into the over-50 set. They now are rapidly graduating to senior leagues, according to a press release from the New Jersey Senior Softball Association, the parent organization for all of the senior softball leagues in the state.

And just like in professional baseball, there are the players who are legends. Frank Trinkle of Point Pleasant and

Bob Richards of Toms River are talked about often. But when players talk about Pete Smith of Brielle, they speak in reverend terms.

"Every time he comes up, you expect the ball to go over the fence." It is just part of what makes playing a lot of fun. DeRosa, who still plays with a team in the 50-and-older league, enjoys traveling with the Cash for College team out of New Egypt in Plumsted.

"We do two or three trips a year by plane. There are other tournaments that are driving distance away," he said. "It keeps you moving and keeps you young." He said even his wife does not mind. "She makes a lot of the trips. A lot of wives do. Hey, there are a lot worse things a guy could be doing than playing softball," said DeRosa, who began playing senior softball when he was 50.

"I had competed with the young guys until I was about 42 years old, but it got to be too much.

MIDDLESEX 70'S OPENS 1ST SEASON

The Middlesex County 70+ Senior Softball League opened its first season on May 13th 2009. The Opening Day ceremony began with a fine trumpet rendition of the Star Spangle Banner by **Joe Parascand**. Four teams managed by Dick Raymond (Blues), Bob Hutcheon (Grays), Al Zack (Greens), and Sandy Karr and Harvey Yonowitz (Reds) make up the league. A special thanks goes to Tom Jackson, Senior League Advisor, for helping set up the league.



NEW JERSEY TEAM TAKES TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS TITLE NAMI CONSTRUCTION WINS 75+ DIVISION IN POLK COUNTY, FL

Life begins at 50.

At least it does if you are interested in playing in senior league softball, a game that has more than 100 teams across New Jersey who are a month away from starting another season...except for those who just play all year long. "We got back from Florida in February," said Dick Cero, 75, who lives in Deal.

He was a member of the Nami Construction Crew 75-and-older squad that won the national Tournament of Champions in Polk County, Fla., in February. To get to the championship, Nami needed to win its final five games, and Cero pitched them to victory in each. Well, sort of. Nami was trailing 22-12 in the final inning of the championship game when they rallied for the victory.

Cero and other high performing seniors play on traveling teams. But there are plenty of teams for those just looking for some exercise and a chance to rekindle their love of the game. "There is a great camaraderie among the guys. Most of us are completely retired, and it gives us a chance to exercise. It's not real physical, but it is better than sitting on a couch and watching TV," Cero said.

Cero started playing softball at the 50-year-old level. But now he is playing with the older group. He said that the drive to win is just the same.



Top Left: Bob Smith, Ben Ellis, Bob Walker
Middle Left: Jim Harris, Bill Vanderwende, Richard (Dick) Cero, Bob Nami, Don Cherim, Jack Sandher
Bottom Left: Bill Stiffler, John King, Russ Booth, Jerry Eling Ham, Karl Horst